

REMARKS

The application has been amended and is believed to be in condition for allowance.

The indication that claims 3-9 are allowed is gratefully acknowledged.

Claims 3-9 are amended as to form in consideration of U.S. practice and preferences. In addition, the exemplary recitation "in particular a refiner designed for the manufacture of paper pulp" was struck from claims 1 and 3 and re-introduced as dependent claims 10 and 11, respectively. The amendments to 3-9 do not introduce new matter and are believed to have no impact to their patentability

Claims 1-2 are similarly amended to form as to claims 3-9, above, and claim 1 is further amended to recite a predetermined distance (e) exceeds a distance (d) between a second stop (17) and an end surface of the measuring end (10a) of the sensor body (10) by another predetermined distance (c) when the sensor body is moved to a normal measuring position in the stator. The amendment finds support in the specification and allowable claim 3 as originally filed; the amendment does not introduce new matter.

The Official Action objected to claim 8 due to informalities at line 4. In reply, claim 8 has been amended with intent to obviate the Official Action's objection.

The Official Action rejected claims 1-2 under 35 USC 102(b) as being anticipated by Allshouse, et al. (US 5,691,636; hereinafter ALLSHOUSE). The Official Action states that ALLSHOUSE teaches a method with the sensor device being calibrated by the sensor body being moved a distance in the direction towards the rotor and the size of this movement being related to the signal value from the sensor device, wherein the movement is made so large that contact is made between stops in the sensor device arranged at a predetermined distance apart and interacting with each other. The Official Action offers element 52 in housing 42 of ALLSHOUSE Fig. 2 as a first stop, and a shoulder in sensor body 10 adjacent to the first stop as the second stop.

In reply, it is noted that claim 1 has been amended as stated above based on the recitations of independent claim 3, indicated as allowable by the Official Action.

It is also respectfully submitted that ALLSHOUSE fails to anticipate the stops recited in amended claim 1. Contrary to the recitations of claim 1, ALLSHOUSE teaches adapter 42 has shoulders 52 for receiving the flange 38 of the housing 28, the flange 38 cooperating with adapter shoulder 52 to prevent movement of the housing 28 within the adapter 42 (column 4, lines 32-34).

For the reasons foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that amended claim 1 is patentable, and claim 2 is believed to be patentable at least for depending from a patentable claim.

Reconsideration and allowance of claims 1-2 are respectfully requested.

From the foregoing, it will be apparent that applicants have fully responded to the May 12, 2008 Official Action and that the claims as presented are patentable. In view of this, applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the claims, as presented, and their early passage to issue.

In order to expedite the prosecution of this case, it is requested that the Examiner telephone the attorney for applicants at the number set forth below if the Examiner is of the opinion that further discussion of this case would be helpful.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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